

Comprehensive Animal Welfare Program Team Assessment Report

November 17, 2022

Off-Range Corral: Pauls Valley Off-Range Corral

State: New Mexico

Facility Manager or COR: Pat Hofmann, Facility Manager

CAWP Assessment Team Members: Jerrie Bertola, Dr. Al Kane, Jake Benson, Ruby Kyle, and Rob Sharp

Assessment Date: November 8, 2022

Total Number of CAWP Off-Range Corral Standards: 117

Number of Applicable CAWP Standards: 95

Compliance with Applicable CAWP Standards: 87/95 = 92%

General Notes and Comments from the CAWP Team: Assessments of Off-Range Corrals includes the Comprehensive Animal Welfare Program standards for Off-Range Corrals and Transportation, as applicable.

Coordination with the Pauls Valley Off-Range Corrals was excellent. The CAWP team was well received and was provided access to the entire facility. The team was able to observe wild horses and burros being sorted, haltered, and loaded during an adoption event. The team was also able to view wild horses in the pastures as well as the animals being offered for adoption in the corral setting.

The environment at the Pauls Valley Off-Range Corral is different from other off-range corrals currently used by BLM. Other than times when animals are being offered to the public for adoption through events or when being vaccinated or prepared for adoption, the wild horses and burros are in pastures that are 40 to 60 acres. This unique design and its features are an added benefit to animal welfare.

Requirements of Permanent Instruction Memorandum (PIM) 2021-002, Wild Horse and Burro Comprehensive Animal Welfare Program (CAWP):

- All state, district, and field offices will continue to comply with the WHB CAWP policy within their jurisdictions at all times. This includes the CAWP Standards for Off-Range Corral Facilities, Transportation, and Adoption/Sale Events.
- All personnel, including contractor and partners involved in the care, handling, and transportation of wild horses and burros at off-range corrals and adoption/sale events are required to complete training annually.

Not all personnel at the Pauls Valley Off-Range Corral were current with CAWP annual training.

Conditions found to be in non-compliance with the CAWP Standards for Wild Horse and Burro Off-Range Corrals:

Facility Design

Standard

- 1.II.F Fences in pens, alleys, and working chute systems must be not less than 6 feet high for horses, 5 feet high for burros, and the bottom rail must not be more than 12 inches from ground level.

Non-Compliance: Not all pen fences were 6 feet high, and there were several places where the bottom rail was more than 12 inches from ground level.

Standard

- 1.II.G Fences must be of stout design and be maintained in proper condition with no holes, gaps, or sharp edges which could result in WH&Bs being injured.

Non-Compliance: A set of double gates (which led into a pen) had a 12" gap between them. These were used to form a portion of the alley, which created a gap that could cause injury.

Standard

- 1.II.M Facilities must provide access to shade and shelter (wind breaks) in pens designated for compromised animals needing special care (i.e., injured or weak animals). Additional provisions for shade and shelter (wind breaks) will be evaluated and determined by managers as appropriate for their region, the function of their facility and the condition of the animals under their care.

Non-Compliance: There were no designated pens for compromised animals that provided shade and shelter.

Loading and Unloading Facilities

Standard

- 1.III.A.1 Facilities in areas for loading and unloading WH&Bs must be maintained in a safe and proper working condition, including gates and doors that swing freely and latch or tie easily as designed.

Non-Compliance: Due to wet conditions, the concrete pad in the haltering chute area became slick and caused multiple animals to lose their footing.

Receiving Procedures

Standard

- 1.III.B.10 WH&Bs should be penned with WH&Bs of like age, sex, and temperament.

Non-Compliance: There were pens of animals with mixed sexes.

Veterinarian

Standard

1.IV.A.1 Routine presence by an on-site or on-call veterinarian must be provided at each facility with records of those visits maintained at the facility.

Non-Compliance: Veterinarian records are not maintained at the facility.

Biosecurity

Standard

1.IV.B.3 Pens should be provided to segregate sick, infectious, injured, or weak WH&Bs from other healthy individuals in the facility when possible.

Non-Compliance: Pens designed for compromised animals are used for resting loads and to help group loads of animals to be sent to adoptions or off-range pastures; therefore, there are no pens exclusively designated for sick, infectious, injured, or weak animals.

Preparation Procedures

Standard

1.IV.D.6 Facilities must adhere to the current BLM vaccination policy.

Non-Compliance: According to randomly selected animal health records, not all animals in the facility received booster vaccinations for flu/EHV vaccinations on schedule.

Table 1: Overall Summary Rating

CAWP Standards and Policy Requirements	Compliant	Partially Compliant	Non-Compliant	N/A
CAWP Trained BLM Staff		✓		
CAWP Contract Trained Staff			✓	
Facility Personnel	✓			
Facility Design		✓		
Loading and Unloading Facilities		✓		
Receiving Procedures		✓		
Veterinarian		✓		
Biosecurity		✓		
Feed and Water	✓			
Preparation Procedures		✓		
Euthanasia Procedures	✓			
Carcass Disposal	✓			
Willful Acts of Abuse	✓			
General Handling	✓			
Handling Aids	✓			
Care of WHBs During Transport Preparation Procedures	✓			
Vehicles	✓			
Transport Procedures				✓
<i>Compliant – all the activities of the section were compliant with the standards or policy requirements. Partially compliant – one or more activities of the section were non-compliant with the standards or policy requirements. Non-Compliant – all activities of the section were non-compliant with the standards or policy requirements. N/A –activities were not observed during the assessment.</i>				

Possible ratings for CAWP Assessments are 96-100% Excellent, 86-95% Good, 70-85% Complies, and 0-69% Failure to Comply.

Final CAWP Assessment Rating: Good. 92% of applicable CAWP standards were met.